



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of State Police

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Notice to Parent/Guardian

A child under your guardianship, who is under 18 years old, has been cited as a civil offender for the possession of an ounce or less of marijuana pursuant to Section 32L of Chapter 94C. The civil penalty is \$100, as indicated on the enclosed citation form. In addition, within one year of the date of the offense listed on this citation, the child must complete a drug awareness program, consisting of a minimum of four hours classroom instruction or group discussion and ten hours of community service, and file a certificate of completion of the program with the Clerk of the district court listed on the enclosed citation.

If a certificate of completion is not filed within one year of the offense, the Clerk shall notify the offender, parent or guardian and the enforcing person who issued the original notice to the offender of a hearing to show cause why the civil penalty should not be increased to \$1000. **Both the offender and the parents/guardians will be jointly and severally liable to pay any increased penalty.**

Failure to complete a compliant drug awareness program and any required community service within one year may also lead to delinquency proceedings for offenders under the age of seventeen at the time of the offense. Please consult G.L. c. 94C, §§ 32L-32N for details.

For more information about drug awareness programs, please contact the Department of Youth Services at the toll free number: (866) 705 – 2807.

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